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Largest missing persons cases

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The NamUs Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022 contains case reports on missing, unidentified, and unclaimed individuals reported to the database by local law enforcement agencies or self-reported by family members. However, this report may not represent all missing persons nationwide due to varying reporting methods. Monthly NamUs reports cover unresolved cases of missing persons, unidentified persons, and unclaimed persons, as well as forensic services and outreach activities. Starting January 2023, these reports include additional statistics for each month. The reports are available by state and territory, providing information on disappeared individuals in art, lists of people with unknown locations and statuses, and those who were declared dead in absentia. The NamUs database also includes cases involving enforced disappearance, but further investigation is required to confirm this status. List of infamous disappearances and kidnappings throughout history. The life of famous mystery writer Agatha Christie took a mysterious turn back in 1926, not when she went missing for 11 days, but rather when her husband asked for a divorce due to his infatuation with another woman. Agatha had published six novels by then, featuring her iconic detective Hercule Poirot. However, instead of unraveling the intricacies of someone else's disappearance, it was Agatha who found herself at the center of a mystery. Her car was discovered abandoned after she left home following her husband's revelation to travel without her. As the community held its breath, speculation ran wild in the media about possible foul play or even Agatha taking her own life. It took 11 days for Agatha's whereabouts to be confirmed at the Swan Hydropathic Hotel under a pseudonym. her spouse's lover. Agatha asserted she had no memory of the events that transpired over those 11 days, nor how she even arrived at the hotel, and her actions have been attributed to a fugue state. To this day, nobody knows what befell Christie during that perplexing 11-day disappearance. Every year, thousands of families are thrust into a state of uncertainty when a loved one suddenly vanishes. One of the most unsettling instances occurred five years ago this March, when Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 disappeared from the skies, and a lack of clues prevented investigators from making sense of the tragedy, depriving over 200 families of closure. It's one of the numerous inexplicable incidents that continue to baffle authorities and haunt the relatives left behind. Other unsolved cases range from those the FBI has abandoned, like the nearly 50-year-old hunt for the notorious criminal known as D.B. Cooper, to those still ongoing, like the search for Indiana University student Lauren Spierer, who vanished in 2011. Out of a century's worth of unsolved disappearances that TIME revisited, here are five of the most enigmatic cases: Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 A family member weeps as she and other relatives pray during a candlelight vigil for passengers aboard the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 at Lido Hotel in Beijing on April 8, 2014, after a month of searching for the missing aircraft. In what is perhaps the most baffling and tragic aviation mystery of all time, more than 200 people on board Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 seemed to vanish mid-air on March 8, 2014. Despite government officials launching an "unprecedented" search by air and sea that involved multiple countries and spanned at least three years, the aircraft and the remains of the 239 passengers remain missing. It's also still unclear what caused the commercial plane to suddenly veer off course. The trip began as usual when the Beijing-bound Boeing 777 aircraft departed as scheduled from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, carrying 12 crew members and 227 passengers. But it went missing soon after a routine handover between air traffic control systems. Instead of heading to its planned destination, the aircraft flew back across the Malaysian Peninsula and made its way to the southern Indian Ocean, officials said. During a news conference last summer, following the release of the latest safety investigation report into the The investigation into the mysterious airplane diversion remains inconclusive, with no definitive cause or perpetrator identified. Lead investigator Kok Soo Chon stated that the lack of evidence makes it impossible to determine the reason for the diversion with certainty. Although manual systems were turned off, there is no indication that the pilots acted maliciously, contradicting some earlier expert opinions. The possibility of a third-party interference cannot be ruled out, but the unusual fact that no one has claimed responsibility raises questions about the motivations behind such an act. Nearly 50 years ago, a notorious passenger hijacker known as D.B. Cooper seized a Seattle-bound flight and parachuted out with $200,000 in ransom money. Despite extensive investigations, Cooper's fate remains unknown, and his legend has almost faded into history. Two high-profile cases that remain shrouded in mystery are those of Jimmy Hoffa and Amelia Earhart. In 1975, Hoffa, a former labor leader, disappeared from a Michigan restaurant, where he was supposed to meet with Mafia leaders. Despite an extensive FBI investigation, his body was never found, and he was officially declared dead in 1982. The case remains open. Similarly, in 1937, Amelia Earhart, a pioneering American pilot, vanished while attempting to fly around the world. Her disappearance has sparked widespread public interest and numerous investigations over the years, but her fate remains unknown. Both cases have been the subject of extensive searches and investigations, with the FBI announcing in 2016 that they would no longer actively pursue Hoffa's case. Despite this, the agency continues to receive tips about his possible location. The disappearance of these two figures has become the stuff of legend, with numerous theories and speculations emerging over the years. While some believe they were murdered, others think they may have simply disappeared on their own. Despite the passage of time, both cases continue to fascinate the public and remain the subject of ongoing investigations. Amelia Earhart's solo transatlantic flight in 1937 marked a historic milestone in aviation, but her disappearance on July 2, 1937, remains a mystery. The pair was attempting to complete the first around-the-world flight when they ran low on fuel and disappeared over the Pacific Ocean. Meanwhile, another high-profile disappearance of an American student, Lauren Spierer, has sparked widespread concern since her vanishing in Bloomington, Ind., in 2011. Despite an extensive manhunt involving celebrities like Stephen Colbert and Kim Kardashian, investigators have yet to locate Spierer's whereabouts. Determined to uncover the truth, Ciravolo stated, "I'll never give up." Her pursuit of justice has become deeply personal and emotional, driven by a desire to bring closure to those involved. Meanwhile, Spierer's parents continue to mourn their daughter's disappearance, cherishing memories of her love for lacrosse and Valentine's Day celebrations. On what would have been Spierer's 28th birthday in January, her mother Charlene penned a heartfelt Facebook post, expressing her longing for her daughter: "I miss you with every breath."